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German mispronunciation of *th*, by giving it the coronal articulation of *s*, instead of lowering the tip of the tongue slightly.

[p. 39] Reduced or so-called silent Eng. *r* is defined as similar to Ger. *ö*. The introduction of this *r* into the class-room is somewhat doubtful. The *r* in question is glottal, defined by Sievers, [*Phonetik* 309] and observed by him only in the London dialect. It is not confined to this region but is quite common in the New England states.

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Björnsterne Björnson's *Synnöve Solbakken*, edited with introduction, notes and vocabulary, by George T. Flom, Ph. D. John Anderson Publishing Company, Chicago, Ill. Pp. xxxii, 206.

When we note the rather singular circumstance that this book is the first annotated edition of a Norwegian author published for school use in this country we scarcely need to add, that it meets an actual want that is very keenly felt. During the last decade or two the Scandinavian languages and literatures have not only attracted general attention, but have won the deep and genuine interest of a large portion of the American public. Both in literary circles and in higher institutions of learning the study of this hitherto new field is rapidly growing both in extent and thoroughness, stimulated by the recognition of the great importance of these languages in philological research, the real greatness of the Scandinavian poets, and their influence on all contemporary European literature. But the lack of the necessary helps has hitherto placed hindrances in the student's path. Though suitable grammars have appeared, annotated texts have been wanting, and the work in these languages has been very much handicapped. Dr. Flom has, therefore, done all students of Scandinavian a valuable service through his edition of Björnson's great masterpiece. The selection of *Synnöve Solbakken* for a first edition of this kind must be considered a most happy one. Whatever may come and go in literature, this story will always remain the great prose idyl of Norwegian peasant life marking the beginning of a new epoch in Norwegian literature.

No one production gives a better picture of the life and character of the Norwegian people, or affords a better opportunity to become acquainted with the most typical and idiomatic form of the Norwegian language as it is used by a cultured and not too pretentious middle class.

The editor has done his work with scholarly thoroughness and the book is in all respects everything that could be desired. In the introduction he gives a very well written biography of Björnson during the earlier periods of his career. He traces very vividly the poet's own development as an author and gives a thorough and lucid exposition of the great influence which Björnson exerted on all literary activity in Norway at that time. The vocabulary is very complete, containing the words in the text with the meaning in which they are there used.<sup>1</sup> The copious and scholarly explanatory notes, which deal more especially with the linguistic difficulties of the text, constitute a feature worthy of special commendation. These notes are written not simply with a view to help the student over difficult passages, but to give him a clear insight into the syntactic peculiarities of the Norwegian language through careful comparisons with English, German and French.

The halftone cuts of the poet himself as well as those of Aulestad, his present home, his birthplace Björgan, and the Næsset parsonage in Romsdal, will be of interest and real value to the reader. They illustrate and enforce in a marked way the life sketch of Björnson given in the introduction and will do much to aid the reader in becoming better acquainted with the poet's life and personality. It is to be hoped that more editions of a similar kind

<sup>1</sup> The following missprints in the text and omissions from the vocabulary have been noted: Page 10, line 20, *ved Bækken* should be *paa Bænken*; page 15, line 21, should be comma in place of period after *Gulddronning*; page 36, line 7, *her* should be *har*; page 77, line 4, note index 2 after *samme* should be omitted; page 94, line 3, *sagde* should be *sagte*; page 111, line 22, *the* should be *thi*; page 117, line 19, *over* should be omitted; page 187 *Prækestol* should be *Prækestol*.

The following words are to be added to the vocabulary; *Forhove*, *ordknapp*, *Spark*, *pilte*, *puple*, *skvattre*, *Myg*, *skjörte op*, *Niste*, *Prestelære*, *uforvarende* and *stange*. There is an oversight on page 181 in that the definition of *knæga* has been omitted. These things are of course a minor matter but should be rectified in a second edition.

will soon follow, so that the students of Scandinavian may be enabled to pursue their study with all the profit that the best facilities can bring.

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GALLÉE, J. H., *Vorstudien zu einem Altniederdeutschen Wörterbuche* (Für meine Freunde gedruckt). Leiden : E. J. Brill, 1903. 8vo., xxiv and 645 pp.

This comprehensive work with its modest title of 'Preliminary Studies towards an Old Low German Dictionary' may briefly be styled a vocabulary to the minor or scattered sources of the Old Low German language. In excluding not only the Heliand and the poetical works in Old Low German generally, but also the so-called Low Franconian Psalms and J. Lipsius' 'Glosses' selected from these psalms, the author has been able to concentrate his attention mainly on such texts and glosses as were previously published by Prof. Gallée himself in his 'Altsächsische Sprachdenkmäler' (Leiden, 1894) and later on by E. Wadstein in his book entitled 'Kleinere altsächsische Sprachdenkmäler' (Norden and Leipzig, 1899). At the same time the present volume incorporates a great deal of material not found either in Gallée's or in Wadstein's 'Sprachdenkmäler.' A glance at the list (p. xvii seq.) of the glossaries—partly or wholly Low German—contained in the four volumes of the 'Althochdeutsche Glossen' and perused by Prof. Gallée, suffices to show that Steinmeyer-Sievers' fundamental work has contributed to the present dictionary a much larger share of glosses than to the former collections of Low German texts. Additional material has also been derived from various other—printed and manuscript—sources. Altogether Prof. Gallée's work is within its scope (*i. e.*, excluding the Heliand, the Genesis, etc.) the most complete Old Saxon dictionary, and for this achievement the author is entitled to our acknowledgment the more so, as the material is so widely scattered that absolute completeness would seem almost a thing impossible.

The value of Prof. Gallée's work is enhanced by the fact that he